



**FEMA**

# Disaster News

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## **NOTE TO EDITOR:**

*You can help disaster victims by announcing or publishing the toll-free application number, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**, as often as possible.*

## **DISASTER ASSISTANCE REACHES 2.7 MILLION FOR WISCONSIN RECOVERY**

**MADISON, WI** — Three weeks into the recovery effort, \$2,710,051 in state and federal disaster assistance has been approved to help Wisconsin residents and businesses recover from losses suffered as a result of the severe storms, flooding and tornadoes that began May 19, according to recovery officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM).

“Already 95 percent of the approved housing assistance grants have been disbursed to individuals and families to help them with essential home repairs after they were damaged by flooding or tornadoes,” Ron Sherman, FEMA federal coordinating officer, said. “Our top priority is getting people into safe and sanitary living quarters so they can continue on with their lives.”

Since the disaster was declared on June 18, there have been 1,531 applications from the seven originally declared counties for Individual Assistance and 1,393 from the 37 counties added to the disaster declaration on July 2. (See attached chart for a county-specific breakdown.)

“There still may be people out there with disaster-related losses who have not yet applied for help,” Ed Gleason, WEM administrator, said. “These individuals are encouraged to make that one phone call to apply for assistance.”

Residents and business owners with disaster-related losses can do this by calling, toll free, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. Registrars are available to take applications from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday until further notice.

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## Recovery Summary, Page 2

The following is a summary of ongoing recovery efforts, as of close of business, July 8:

- Under the **Individuals and Households Program (IHP)** a total of \$2,099,051 in grants has been approved, which includes:
  - **Housing Assistance** grants of \$1,873,744 approved for 1,057 individuals and families for essential home repairs and temporary housing. These grants are 100 percent funded by FEMA.
  - **Other Needs Assistance** grants of \$225,307 approved for 433 residents to help meet serious disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other programs. Examples include personal property replacement, along with moving and storage, transportation and other necessary expenses. These grants are 75 percent funded by FEMA and 25 percent by the state.
- The **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** has approved 25 low-interest disaster loan applications for a total of \$611,000.
- Thus far, **FEMA inspectors** have completed 1,895 inspections of damaged property, with most inspections being completed within two days of initial registration.
- **Community Relations** outreach teams have been working with local officials and organizations in the declared counties to inform residents and businesses about available state/federal disaster assistance programs. The teams also go door-to-door, encouraging those with damages to apply for assistance.
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)**, which is administered by the state and funded by FEMA, is available to help individuals affected by the disaster who are not covered by regular unemployment insurance. For the 37 counties added on July 2, the deadline to apply is August 7, for those affected in the seven originally declared counties the deadline to apply is July 23. People who live or work in a disaster-declared county may be eligible for DUA if they, as a direct result of the storms and flooding became unemployed or partially unemployed, were unable to reach their place of employment, or lost work because of an injury and are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. Those interested should first call the FEMA toll-free application line at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, then file an application by calling the Unemployment Insurance Division at one of the following numbers: In Madison at 1-608-232-0678; in Milwaukee at 1-414-438-7700; toll-free at 1-800-822-5246. A special (TTY) number for the hearing impaired is also available at 1-888-393-8914.
- **Disaster Recovery Centers** have been operating in the disaster declared areas. A total of 517 people have visited the centers to meet face-to-face with disaster recovery officials, get disaster assistance information and technical information on ways to reduce damages from future disasters and receive help in completing their SBA loan applications. Disaster Recovery Centers currently operating, with the hours of 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., are located as follows:

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## Recovery Summary, Page 3

- **Adams County:** Adams County Courthouse, 402 Main Street, Friendship. *Closes: COB Saturday, July 10*
- **Crawford County:** Prairie du Chien Township Hall (Across from Cabela's), 33890 State Highway 35, Prairie du Chien. *Closes: COB Saturday, July 10*
- **Green Lake County:** Berlin High School, 222 Memorial Drive, Berlin. *Closes: COB Saturday, July 10*
- **Milwaukee County:** Eastbrook Church, 5345 N. Green Bay Ave., Milwaukee. *Closed Sunday, July 11; Closes: COB Tuesday, July 13*
- **Vernon County:** Erlandson Office Building (Basement of Conference Center), E7410 County Road BB, Viroqua. *Closes: COB Saturday, July 10*
- **Disaster Recovery Centers Open Monday, July 12, and Tuesday, July 13:**
  - **Dane County:** Town of Madison Town Hall, 2120 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison. *Closes: COB Tuesday, July 13*
  - **Grant County:** Grant County Law Enforcement Center (Lower Level), 1000 N. Adams St., Lancaster. *Closes: COB Tuesday, July 13*
  - **Outagamie County:** Little Chute Safety Center (in Little Chute Police Dept.), 200 W. McKinley Ave. Little Chute. *Closes: COB Tuesday, July 13*
- **An SBA Workshop is open in Fond du Lac County** for people to receive help filling out their SBA low-interest disaster loan application. Location and Schedule: City/County Government Center, Emergency Management Office, 160 South Macy Street, Fond du Lac. Schedule: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., until further notice.

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizen Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

## Disaster Assistance Grants By County

Counties marked with an \* were declared for Individual Assistance on June 18;  
the 37 other counties were designated on July 2.

County	Applications Received	Housing Assistance		Other Needs Assistance	
		Grants Approved	Amount Approved	Grants Approved	Amount Approved
Adams	44	9	\$8,772	2	-
Brown	6	2	-	2	-
Calumet	3	0	-	0	-
Chippewa	0				
Clark	17	13	\$19,216	0	-
<b>* Columbia</b>	110	59	\$103,958	25	\$14,354
Crawford	45	12	\$28,153	2	-
Dane	18	4	\$6,696	3	-
<b>*Dodge</b>	370	195	\$346,325	57	\$34,144
Eau Claire	1				
<b>*Fond du Lac</b>	355	156	\$272,560	50	\$13,451
Grant	62	31	\$62,872	5	\$1,318
Green	2	0		0	
Green Lake	109	38	\$54,344	5	\$814
Iowa	0				
Jackson	4	2	-	1	-
<b>*Jefferson</b>	62	19	\$15,434	6	\$1,851
Juneau	16	4	\$13,630	3	-
<b>*Kenosha</b>	116	51	\$116,138	35	\$17,397
La Crosse	8	2	-	2	-
Lafayette	1	1	-	0	
Marathon	0				
Marquette	52	19	\$37,018	8	\$2,124
Milwaukee	752	79	\$122,812	97	\$75,728
Monroe	44	15	\$22,280	14	\$3,176
Outagamie	6	0		0	

<b><u>County</u></b>	<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>Housing Assistance Grants Approved</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>	<b>Other Needs Assistance Grants Approved</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
<b>*Ozaukee</b>	60	28	\$77,650	4	\$2,017
Portage	13	8	\$15,099	1	-
Racine	17	3	-	2	-
Richland	10	4	\$9,838	1	-
Rock	5	1	-	0	
Sauk	52	25	\$31,011	14	\$3,531
Shawano	0				
Sheboygan	14	5	\$9,426	0	
Taylor	0				
Trempealeau	0				
Vernon	56	30	\$73,772	5	\$1,663
Walworth	2	0		0	
Washington	10	4	\$8,195	0	
Waukesha	6	1	-	1	-
Waupaca	6	0		0	
Waushara	7	3	-	0	
<b>*Winnebago</b>	458	232	\$391,108	88	\$49,120
Wood	6	2	-	0	

*Note: When the number of grants in a county is 3 or less, the amount is not listed for privacy concerns. All figures are as of close of business, Thursday, July 8.*